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LETTER DATED 23 AUGUST 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ALBANIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to present to you the attached letter from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Albania, Dr. Alfred Serreqi, dated 22 August 1994.

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating this letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Pellumb KULLA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 22 August 1994 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Albania addressed to the President of the Security Council

I would like to draw your attention to the deep concern of the Government of Albania in connection with a new Greek provocative act in the interior along the border between Albania and Greece.

At 0607 hours, on 21 August 1994, a Greek propeller aircraft, which had taken off from the Corfu, violated the airspace of the Republic of Albania and, before departing, dropped leaflets, imprinted with the Greek flag, which called for the overthrow of the existing order in Albania.

The Government of Albania considers the 21 August 1994 event a very grave provocation against the sovereignty and integrity of the Albanian State, which openly runs counter to the most elementary norms regulating relations between sovereign States, to the Charter of the United Nations, the principles of the Helsinki Act and other international documents. It regards it as a premeditated provocation and stresses that leaflets, with the Greek flag imprinted, which called for the overthrow of the existing order in Albania, are clear evidence of its aim.

I would like to emphasize that this is not the only act. It follows in the wake of the Greek side's repeated provocations, which culminated in the tragic event on 10 April 1994, when a Greek commando infiltrated Albanian territory and perpetrated a terrorist act, killing two Albanian army men. Having perpetrated the crime, the Greek commando went back to Greek territory. Likewise, on 7 July 1994, two Greek soldiers penetrated about 800 metres deep into Albanian territory and, after opening fire on Albanian frontier guards, returned to Greek territory. Violations of Albanian territorial waters by Greek vessels have also been repeated. Recently, the Greek authorities have commenced violent collective expulsion of Albanian economic immigrants, which has been accompanied by casualties, such as the killing of an Albanian youth, Orman Hysen Gjoka (24 years old).

All of these acts have ensued from threatening statements made by Greek military authorities, which do not rule out the possibility of using military force against Albania.

To investigate the said events, the Government of Albania has made a proposal on setting up an impartial international commission and continuing dialogue to resolve all pending issues between the two countries, but the Greek side has rejected it.

The Government of Albania is convinced that the policy of pressures, blockades and provocations pursued by the Government of Greece and other institutions of the Greek State, is also materialized in territorial claims, embodied in the notion of "Vorio Epir", and in illegal attempts to Hellenize it. This comes to happen simultaneously with growing repression, violence and killing on the part of the Belgrade regime in Kosova, something which testifies

to a joint Serbian-Greek strategy to bring about a dangerous destabilization of the south of the Balkans, fraught with unforeseen consequences for the entire region, for which the Government of Greece bears responsibility.

I avail myself of this opportunity to request your condemnation of these provocative acts of the Greeks against the sovereignty and integrity of the Republic of Albania and the exercise of your authority to put an end to them.

(Signed) Alfred SERREQI